

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 15-31 and 45-58 without prejudice.

No claims have been amended.

Claims 1-14 and 32-44 are pending and are listed following:

1. (original) A data communication system configured to communicatively link a host device and a client device with a point-to-point data communication link, the host device and the client device each configured for multipoint data communication over a distributed network, the data communication system comprising:

a data communication interface driver configured to communicatively link with a data communication interface of the host device via the point-to-point data communication link;

a virtual driver component configured to communicate with the data communication interface driver and the client device; and

a virtual network configured to communicatively link the data communication interface driver and the virtual driver component.

1 2. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
2 wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver
3 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a
4 Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the Remote NDIS
5 driver via the point-to-point data communication link.

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7 3. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
8 wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver
9 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a
10 Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS messages
11 with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link.

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13 4. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
14 wherein the virtual network is a local area network.

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16 5. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
17 wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver
18 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate with the virtual
19 driver component via the virtual network.

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21 6. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
22 wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver
23 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate Remote NDIS
24 messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

1 7. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
2 wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver
3 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a
4 Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the Remote NDIS
5 driver via the point-to-point data communication link, and the Remote NDIS
6 driver is configured to communicate with the virtual driver component via the
7 virtual network.

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9 8. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
10 wherein the data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver
11 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a
12 Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS messages
13 with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link, and
14 the Remote NDIS driver is configured to communicate the Remote NDIS
15 messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

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17 9. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
18 further comprising a connection interface configured to couple the point-to-point
19 data communication link with the client device.

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21 10. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
22 further comprising a Universal Serial Bus data communication interface
23 configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the client
24 device.

1 11. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
2 further comprising a 1394 bus data communication interface configured to couple
3 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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5 12. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
6 further comprising a wireless data communication interface configured to couple
7 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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9 13. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
10 further comprising a Bluetooth data communication interface configured to couple
11 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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13 14. (original) A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
14 further comprising an infrared data communication interface configured to couple
15 the point-to-point data communication link with the client device.

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17 15-31. (canceled)

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1 **32. (original)** A method for implementing a point-to-point data
2 communication link between computing devices, the method comprising:

3 providing a network communication component designed for data
4 communication over a distributed network;

5 providing a connection interface to couple the network communication
6 component with a host computing device; and

7 providing a virtual network to communicatively link the network
8 communication component and a virtual driver component of a client computing
9 device.

10 **33. (original)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
11 network communication component includes providing a data communication
12 interface driver to communicatively link with a data communication interface of
13 the host computing device via the point-to-point data communication link.

14 **34. (original)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
15 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver
16 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicatively link with a Remote
17 NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-point data
18 communication link.

1 35. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
2 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver
3 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicate Remote NDIS messages
4 with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-
5 point data communication link.

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7 36. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
8 connection interface includes providing a point-to-point data communication
9 protocol interface.

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11 37. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
12 connection interface includes providing a Universal Serial Bus data
13 communication interface.

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15 38. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
16 connection interface includes providing a 1394 bus data communication interface.

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18 39. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
19 connection interface includes providing a wireless data communication interface.

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21 40. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
22 connection interface includes providing a Bluetooth data communication interface.

1 41. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
2 connection interface includes providing an infrared data communication interface.

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4 42. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
5 virtual network includes providing a virtual local area network.

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7 43. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
8 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver
9 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver, and wherein providing the virtual network
10 includes providing a virtual local area network to communicate Remote NDIS
11 messages between the Remote NDIS driver and the virtual driver component.

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13 44. (original) A method as recited in claim 32, wherein providing the
14 network communication component includes providing a Remote Network Driver
15 Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicate Remote NDIS messages
16 with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-
17 point data communication link, and wherein providing the virtual network
18 includes providing a virtual local area network to communicate the Remote NDIS
19 messages between the Remote NDIS driver and the virtual driver component.

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21 45-58. (canceled)